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### Tree manuals

Among the many books upon various phases of tree study two recently to hand seem well suited to the use for which they were intended. The first<sup>5</sup> includes the native and cultivated woody plants of Minnesota, and in its semitechnical nature is intended to appeal to the educated layman quite as much as to the teachers and students of botany and forestry. This appeal is the more readily made through the numerous excellent illustrations, both from drawings and photographs.

In the second manual<sup>6</sup> the same classes are appealed to, and in addition to simplicity of text and abundance of excellent illustrations, the book has further to recommend it, its pocket-size, which allows it to be most conveniently carried into the forests themselves. The leather covered edition is in fact the best and most portable small tree manual that has yet appeared. —GEO. D. FULLER.

### MINOR NOTICES

**A sketch of Linnaeus.**—Professor EDWARD LEE GREENE<sup>7</sup> has published an admirable sketch of LINNAEUS, which the publishers have presented in most attractive form. The personality of this great Swede should live beyond the circle of professional taxonomists, and the simple and fine style of this sketch makes the booklet a most effective one for the teachers of public schools and for reading circles. The nine sections deal with the following topics: lineage and childhood of LINNAEUS; school, college, and university years; journey to Lapland; journey to Germany and Holland; practices medicine in Stockholm; appointed professor at Upsala; influence of LINNAEUS upon botany; LINNAEUS as a zoologist (contributed by W. H. DALL); LINNAEUS as an evolutionist. These sections introduce LINNAEUS the man rather than as the father of taxonomy, and a most interesting and inspiring man he proves to be. We are told of his parentage and early education, of his struggles with adverse circumstances, and of the almost incredible patience, industry, zeal, and resolution with which he conquered and rose to high distinction. No one could introduce him more intelligently, sympathetically, and in better form than Professor GREENE.—J. M. C.

**Indiana Academy of Science.**—The Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science for 1911 (1912), a volume of 473 pages, contains the following botani-

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<sup>5</sup> CLEMENTS, F. E., ROSENDAHL, C. O., and BUTTERS, F. K., *Minnesota trees and shrubs*. Report of the Botanical Survey IX. 8vo. xxi+314 (illustrated). Minneapolis, Minn.: University of Minnesota. 1912.

<sup>6</sup> COLLINS, J. F., and PRESTON, H. W., *Illustrated key to the wild and commonly cultivated trees of the northeastern United States and adjacent Canada*. vii+184. figs. 279. New York: Henry Holt & Co. Cloth \$1.35; leather \$2.50.

<sup>7</sup> GREENE, EDWARD LEE, *Carolus Linnaeus*. pp. 91. Philadelphia: Christopher Sower Company. 1912.

cal papers: Some variations in plants, by F. M. ANDREWS; Report of the work in corn pollination (III), by M. L. FISHER; New and notable members of the Indiana flora, by E. J. GRIMES; A monograph of the common Indiana species of *Hypoxylon*, by CHARLES E. OWENS; The improvement of medicinal plants, by F. A. MILLER; Nutrients in green shoots of trees, by E. J. PETRY; The New York apple tree canker, by LEX R. HESLER; Value of fertilizing constituents of weeds of Indiana; analysis of ironweeds, by FRANK MATHERS and Miss GAIL M. STAPP; The prevalence and prevention of stinking smut in Indiana, by C. T. ORTON; Indiana fungi (II), by J. M. VAN HOOK; Diseases of ginseng caused by Sclerotinias, by GEO. A. OSNER; Additions to the flora of the Lower Wabash Valley (by Dr. J. SCHNECK), by CHARLES C. DEAM; Plants new or rare in Indiana, by CHARLES C. DEAM; The unattached aerial forms of plant rusts in North America, by A. G. JOHNSON.—J. M. C.

**Sylloge Fungorum.**<sup>8</sup>—Volumes XIX and XX of this extended work, bearing the subsidiary title *Index Iconum Fungorum*, contains a bibliographical index to illustrations of fungi, and includes references to works of many of the early as well as the more recent authors. References to illustrations are indicated briefly but clearly; synonyms are introduced frequently and serve as a ready and unmistakable means of cross reference. Volume XIX enumerates alphabetically the genera *Abrothallus* to *Lysurus* inclusive, and Volume XX continues with *Macowanites* to *Zythia*. The species under their respective genera and the bibliographical references thereto are likewise in alphabetical sequence, and the terminology is in accordance with the international rules of botanical nomenclature. The amount of detailed and painstaking labor involved in the achievement of such a task is enormous, but the final result in this case is a valuable work of reference, indispensable to the mycologist and helpful to the general student of botany.—J. M. GREENMAN.

## NOTES FOR STUDENTS

**Current taxonomic literature.**—C. A. DARLING (*Torreya* 12:155-164. 1912) has issued a "Key to the wild and cultivated trees in autumn." The key is intended for use in the field for the identification of trees occurring in eastern United States.—A. DAVIDSON (*Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci.* 11:77. *pl. I.* 1912) describes and illustrates a new species of *Frasera* (*F. puberulenta*) from California.—B. O. DODGE (*Mycologia* 4:218-222. *pls. 62, 63.* 1912) describes and illustrates a new species of *Ascobolus* (*A. magnificus*) from artificial cultures

<sup>8</sup> SACCARDO, P. A., *Sylloge Fungorum omnium hucusque cognitorum*. Vols. XIX and XX. *Index Iconum Fungorum* enumerans eorundem figuras omnes hucusque editas ab auctoribus sive antiquis sive recentioribus. Ductu et consilio P. A. SACCARDO. Congessit J. B. TRAVERSO. Roy. 8vo. Vol. XIX, pp. xi+1158; Vol. XX, pp. 1310. Sumptibus P. A. SACCARDO. Typis Seminarii. Patavii, 23 March 1910, and 25 May 1911.